thening of regulatory function both at the Centre and at the States have been envisaged.

Death of Children due to respiratory Infection

1456. SHRI PRAFULL GORADIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the World Resources Institute, an International Research Organisation, has in its latest report stated that about four million children the world over die of acute respiratory infection each year as a result of environmentally acquired diseases;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken steps to formulate and implement preventive strategies in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) With the objective of improving air quality of the cities in the country a major programme for improving all automotive fuels such as motor gasoline and diesel has been introduced in the country in a phased manner. Low lead petrol (0.15 gm per litre lead content) has been introduced and unleaded petrol has been made available in selected cities. Diesel containing 0.5 percent sulphur has also been introduced. A Vehicular Pollution Control Mission has been launched in Delhi to control pollution from on road vehicles. The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), the apex body for assessment, monitoring and control of weather and Air pollution executes the responsibilities for enforcement of the acts for Prevention and Control of Water and Control of Water and Air Pollution.

Under the Reproductive and Child Health Programme facilities for early diagnosis, management and prevention of deaths due to acute respiratory infections in children under the age of 5 years are being provided.

Use of out-dated Equipment and Medicines in Government hospitals

1457. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether G.B. Pant and other Hospitals are using outdated equipment and medicines;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures proposed to set right the affairs in Government hospitals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) to (c) Central Government Hospitals in Delhi are not using outdated equipment and medicines. Information relating to G.B. Pant Hospital, which is under Government of NCT of Delhi, is being obtained.

Re-Orientation of Ayurvedic syllabus

1458. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court has allowed the State Governments to let vaids, hakims, etc. to prescribe allopathic drugs also, if so, whether Government are thinking of reorienting the Ayurvedic education syllabus accordingly; and

(b) If so, whether this opportunity would also be taken to widen the scope of R&D in this system of medicine?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI: (a) No, Sir.

(b) The question does not arise.